**Pilot Project under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme**

1107. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criterial fixed for inclusion of States under the pilot project under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in States;

(b) whether it is a fact that Govern ment of Gujarat has requested the Union Government for inclusion of the State for the benefit of 18,39,001 farmers of the State;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor stating the nanfes of various States included under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) States/ Districts for the implementation of Ex-perimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) have been selected keeping in view the operation of the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (COS) the States, number of small and marginal farmers and economic backwardness of the State/district.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The State Government has been informed that as the scheme is to be implemented on an experimental basis all the States/districts cannot be covered at this stage. The States covered under the propose scheme are Andhra Pradesh, As sam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

**Safe use of Pesticides in Agriculture**

1108. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan of Government for informing the farmers about the safe and effective use of pesticides in agriculture;

(b) whether there is 'any efforts to educate; farmers in this area; and

(c) the steps likely to be taken to reach this information to the doorsteps of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) Steps being taken by the Government for informing farmers about safe and effective use of pesticides in agriculture include:—

(i) Registration of safer and effective pesticides is compulsory under the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968 and Rules made under the Act;

(ii) Prescribing various kind of safety precautions by the Registration Committee for the benefit of farmers;

(iii) Requirement of each container of pesticides to have leaflets in Hindi and English and one of the regional languages indicating recommended use desage for effective use of pesticides for control of pests in agriculture as well as safety measures in handing pesticides for the benefit of farmers.

(iv) Extension efforts of the State Departments of Agriculture to inform farmers about the safe. and effective use of pesticides.

(v) Organisation of regular prog-rammes on safe and effective use of pesticides before Rabi and Kharif

seasons by Krishi Vigyan Kcndras and State Agricultural Universities.

(vi) Use of electronic media to educate farmers, on the safe and effective use of pesticides;

(vii) Promotion of Integrated Pest Management in the country both by Central and State Governments. Safe and effective use of pesticides remains integral part of IPM.

(viii) Organisation of Farmers Field School both by Central and State Governments to educate farmers on safe and effective use of pesticides;

(ix) Extension programmes by various Associations in the pesticide industry, manufacturers of pesticides as well as dealers in pesticides on safety. Such programmes also aim at creating awareness amongst farmers on the effective use of pesticides in agriculture.

**Use of Herbicides by the Farmers**

1109. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the most popular herbicides being used by the farmers in our country;

(b) whether the efficacy of these have been tested;

(c) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to impart proper knowledge to farmers about herbicides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The most popular herbicides used by the farmers in India include butachlor Isoprotu-ron. 2.4-D. anrlofos, pendimethalin, at-razine, glyphosate, paraguast, thiobencarb, fluchloralin, dalapon, diuron, metribuzin, alachior, oxyfluorfen etc.

(b) and (c) Efficacy of these herbicides is based upon tests and trials conducted by the institutions under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities. Pesticides are registered for use after verifying their efficacy.

(d) Steps being taken to impart proper knowledge to farmers about herbicides include:

(i) Ensuring availability of effective and safe herbicides for use of farmers;

(ii) Popularising proper weed control measures among the farmers in different crops through large scale field demonstrations by State Departments of Agriculture, State Agricultural Universities and industries manufacturing weedicides.

(iii) Organising training and farmers fairs (Krishi Melas) on control of weeds in different crops by State Departments of Agriculture, State Agricultural Universities and industries manufacturing weedicides.

(iv) Educating farmers on control of weeds in different crops, by State Extension functionaries through Training and Visits system.

**Control of Crop Weeds**

1110. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have the latest knowledge about the control of crop weeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and